

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF BIOANALYSTS (AAB)

Board of Registry

(Formerly The Credentialing Commission of the International Society for Clinical Laboratory Technology (ISCLT))

DANTES Test Centers' Authorization

The American Association of Bioanalysts authorizes military installations with DANTES test centers to administer the AAB certification examinations.

Background

The AAB Board of Registry is an independent, autonomous agency organized in 1962. The AAB originally established the minimum qualifications for certification of medical technologists. It also established minimum criteria for courses in medical laboratory technology. Later, the AAB discontinued its accrediting program for schools and concentrated solely on the credentialing of laboratory personnel.

Approving States

Examinations given by the AAB are approved under the rules and regulations of the states' licensure laws by:

- Georgia
 - Hawaii
 - Louisiana
 - Montana
 - Nevada
 - North Dakota
 - Rhode Island
 - West Virginia
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Address

AAB
ATTN: Dr. Mark S. Birenbaum
917 Locust St. Suite 1100
St. Louis, MO 63101

Phone: (314) 241-1445
Fax: (314) 241-1449

Web site: www.aab.org
E-mail: aab1445@primary.net

Description

- Purpose** The AAB's primary purpose is to identify, on a nondiscriminatory basis, those individuals who meet the minimum competency requirements and who establish their competency to perform as:
- Medical Technologists [MT (AAB)]
 - Medical Laboratory Technicians [MLT (AAB)]
 - Physician Office Laboratory Technicians [POLT (AAB)]

Note: These requirements do not discriminate against any individual or Group of individuals on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, or source of national origin.

Advantages Advantages of AAB certification include:

Number	Certification . . .
1	Assures consumers, employers, government agencies, and others interested in the delivery of health care of the competence of individuals who provide such care.
2	Recognizes on-the-job competence as a primary requirement for permitting individuals to provide clinical laboratory services.

Successful Challenge of Examination Individuals who successfully challenge an AAB examination must have served competently a minimum of one year in a laboratory at the level at which they have credentialed.

New Graduates New graduates with no work experience are given a "Provisional" certification. The certification is continued until the AAB receives written documentation from the laboratory director attesting to the certificant's competent performance for a minimum of one year.

Recognized Credentials and Criteria

Medical Technologist [MT (AAB)]

To qualify for Medical Technologist [MT(AAB)] certification, an individual must pass an examination acceptable to the AAB and meet **one** of the following requirements:

Number	Requirements
1	Earn a doctoral, master's or baccalaureate degree or the equivalent from an accredited university or college with a major in a chemical, physical, biological, or clinical laboratory science or medical technology.
2	Successfully complete 90 semester hours in an accredited university or college with a major in chemical, physical, biological, or clinical laboratory science or medical technology.
3	Earn an associate degree or an associate of applied science degree or equivalent from an accredited institution with a major in laboratory science or medical technology and have 3 years of acceptable full-time experience.
4	Have previously qualified or could have qualified as a technologist under the revised *Medicare/CLIA '67 regulations (42 CFR 493.1433) published March 4, 1990 (55 FR 9538).
5	Be certified as an [MLT (AAB)] under [MLT (AAB)] qualification routes 1, 2, 3, or 4 and have 3 years of acceptable experience within the 5 years prior to application for [MT (AAB)] certification.

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Recognized Credentials and Criteria, Continued

Medical Laboratory Technician [MLT (AAB)]

To qualify for medical laboratory technician certification [MLT(AAB)], an individual must be a high school graduate or equivalent, pass an examination acceptable to the AAB, and meet **one** of the following requirements:

Number	Requirements
1	Complete a clinical laboratory training program approved or accredited by an organization approved by the Department of HHS.
2	Earn an associate degree (or equivalent) in a laboratory science or medical laboratory technology from an accredited institution. (The equivalent of an associate degree is defined in paragraph 3 under [MT(AAB)] (Medical Technologist Certification.)
3	Successfully complete an official U.S. medical laboratory procedures course of at least 50 weeks duration and earned the military enlisted occupational specialty of Medical Laboratory Specialist (Laboratory Technician).
4	Complete 24 semester hours of medical laboratory technology courses or 24 semester hours of science courses that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 semester hours of chemistry,• 6 semester hours of biology, and• 12 semester hours of chemistry, biology, or medical laboratory technology in any combination.
5	Document 5 years of full-time clinical laboratory experience acceptable to the Board of Registry.
6	Be certified as a [POLT (AAB)] and obtain 4 years of acceptable experience and 6 CEUs.

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Recognized Credentials and Criteria, Continued

**Physicians
Office
Laboratory
Technician
[POLT(AAB)]**

To qualify for Physicians Office Laboratory Technician [POLT(AAB)] certification, an individual must meet **one** of the following requirements and may be required to pass an AAB examination:

Number	Requirement
1	Be a high school graduate or equivalent and graduate from a clinical laboratory training program of at least 6 months that is acceptable to the AAB.
2	Be a high school graduate or equivalent and have 12 months of experience in a physician's office laboratory or other clinical laboratory acceptable to the AAB.

**Provisional
Certification**

Individuals passing the [MT(AAB)], [MLT(AAB)], OR [POLT(AAB)] examinations are granted “provisional” certification until they obtain one year of acceptable full-time clinical laboratory experience.

Reciprocity

Reciprocity

Individuals may receive certification from the AAB Board of Registry without having to challenge the AAB Board of Registry's examination if they have passed a federal, state, or city licensure or proficiency examination, or a private certification examination administered by any of the following agencies:

Agency	Acronym
American Society of Clinical Pathologists Board of Registry	ASCP
American Medical Technologists	AMT
National Registry of Clinical Chemistry	NRCC
National Registry of Microbiology	NRM
National Certifying Agency for Medical Laboratory Personnel	NCMLP
States of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Florida• Tennessee• California	N/A
City of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New York (prior to 1995)	N/A
Federal: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HHS (formerly HEW) Proficiency Examination (prior to 1988)	N/A

Equivalent Civilian-Military Skills

Military Guide for Suitable Exams

The following chart provides counselors and TCOs with a guide to equivalent civilian-military skills to assist interested applicants to have a better understanding of the AAB certification examination for which they are best qualified to sit:

Medical Laboratory Technician [MLT(AAB)]	Medical Technologist [MT(AAB)]
Army Senior Medical Laboratory Specialist Designation: MOS-92B30	Army Senior Medical Laboratory Specialist Designation: MOS-92B30 Chief Medical Laboratory Specialist Designation: MOS-92B40
Air Force Medical Laboratory Specialist Technician Designation: 90450/90470	Air Force Medical Laboratory Technician Designation: 90470
Navy Medical Laboratory Technician Designation: HM8506	Navy Medical Technologist Designation: HM-8507 NOBC
Coast Guard Clinical Laboratory Technician Advanced Clinical Laboratory Technician Designation: HM Qualification Codes 03, 14	Coast Guard None Designation: None

Note: Equivalents in POLT (AAB) are currently unknown.

How to Order AAB Examinations

Ordering

To order AAB examinations, follow these steps:

Step	Action
1	Using official stationery, the TCO prepares a letter requesting AAB examination(s). Indicate: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• DANTES ID Number• Category(s) of examinations – (MLT, MT, POLT).
2	Examinee completes the AAB application, provides the registration fee (examinee pays), and gives to the TCO.
3	The TCO, after checking for accuracy and completeness, sends an official letter (see step 1), the completed application, and the appropriate registration fee to: AAB 917 Locust St., Suite 1100 St. Louis, MO 63101-1419

Note: Applications submitted without a letter from the TCO are Returned to the applicant. No test materials will be sent.

Certification Fees

Certification Fees

The applicant's certification fees (refer to current DANTES National Calendar of Certification Tests) must be submitted with the application.

Administration

Military Administration

DANTES TEST CENTERS MAY ADMINISTER THE AAB EXAMINATION TO ELIGIBLE ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AND RESERVE COMPONENT PERSONNEL ON AN UNFUNDED (EXAMINEE PAYS) BASIS UNLESS EXISTING MILITARY REGULATIONS PROVIDE OTHERWISE (E.G., ARMY REGULATION 40-219, NAVMEDCOMINST 1500, AND AFR 169-4).

Civilian Administration

DANTES Test Centers may administer the AAB examinations to the following civilians on **AN UNFUNDED (EXAMINEE PAYS) AND SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS** according to local command policy and Service regulations:

- Retired military personnel
 - Military family members
 - Veterans, and
 - U.S. federal employees
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Scoring

Scoring

The following chart indicates the process TCOs should use for the submission of examinations for scoring and report receipt:

Number	Process
1	Following completion of all examinations, immediately return by certified mail <ul style="list-style-type: none">• the completed examinations• unused examination materials,• all notes, comments, and scratch paper to the AAB using the preaddressed envelope provided.
2	The AAB will score DANTES Test Center examinations upon receipt of all materials
3	Examinees will receive a report of examination scores and qualifications for certification directly from the AAB. The TCOs are notified that the scores were provided to examinees.

Refunds

Refunds	The registration fee is not refundable.
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Retesting

Retesting	<p>Examinees who do not attain a passing score may <u>retake</u> the entire examination up to two times within two years without paying another certification fee.</p> <p>Four months must elapse between the initial examination and the first retake. One year must elapse between the second failed examination and the final retake.</p>
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Failing Three Examinations	<p>An applicant who fails three examinations is required to wait two years and obtain additional education and training before attempting the certification process again.</p> <p>Note: A re-examination fee is required per section. Refer to the current DANTES National Calendar of Certification Tests.</p>
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Certificate Maintenance

Continuing Education Required	<p>The AAB reviews the activities of certificate holders [MT (AABs)], [MLT (AABs)], and [POLT (AABs)] on a regular basis and administers a continuing education program to give them an opportunity to maintain their competence.</p> <p>This program for the continuing demonstration of competence is called Continuing Education for Professional Advancement (CEPA). The AAB, through CEPA, also evaluates and approves continuing education programs.</p>
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Certificate Maintenance, Continued

CEPA Benefits Benefits of participation in the CEPA program are:

Number	Benefits
1	A permanent, central file record and all CEUs are maintained.
2	An annual CEU transcript is issued.
3	An official transcript is received to be sent to an institution or employer.

Note: Fees for transcript requests are applied at intervals other than the Annual printout.

Certification with Commendation Certificants who document at least 1.2 CEUs (in a calendar year) will be certified “With Commendation.” The commendation will be displayed on the individual’s annual certificate.

Program Materials and Assistance

Brochures and Pamphlets Contact the AAB directly for brochures and pamphlets that provide information concerning their programs (address below).

Questions Address any questions concerning the examination program by writing or calling the AAB at:

AAB
917 Locust Street, Suite 1100
St. Louis, MO 63101-1419

Telephone: (314) 241-1445
FAX: (314) 241-1449
E-mail: aab@aab.org

Security

Test Loss or Compromise

Refer to Part I of the *DANTES Examination Program Handbook (DEPH)* for complete instructions if there is an AAB test loss or compromise.

Contact DANTES immediately and refer to specific regulations for complete procedures. DANTES address is:

DANTES	Phone: (850) 452-1360
Code 20F	DSN: 922-1360
6490 Saufley Field Road	Fax: (850) 452-1360
Pensacola, FL 32509-5243	

Web Pages

AAB Address

The AAB web site is <http://www.aab.org/>.

DANTES Address

Access the DANTES pages at <http://www.dantes.doded.mil>.

DANTES E-mail

The DANTES Certification Program E-mail address is certprog@voled.doded.mil.
